

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 17, 2004

H.R. 3819 Lewis and Clark National Historical Park Designation Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 5, 2004

H.R. 3819 would redesignate the Fort Clatsop National Memorial in Oregon as the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park and expand its boundaries to include three sites in the state of Washington. The bill would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire real property within the boundaries of the historical park by purchase, donation, exchange, or transfer. Under the bill, the NPS (after receiving funding) would have three years to update the existing general management plan for Fort Clatsop and one year to complete a study of eastern sites associated with the Lewis and Clark expedition. Finally, the bill would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for these purposes.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3819 would cost the federal government \$7.5 million over the next four years. Of this amount, we estimate that the NPS would use \$2 million in 2006 to purchase land (or other property interests such as easements) in Washington. The NPS would need an estimated \$4 million over the following two years to develop new interpretive and visitor facilities on that property and on lands to be donated by the state or transferred by other federal agencies. We expect that spending of the remaining \$1.5 million would be spread over the 2005-2008 period to revise or develop planning documents, carry out the required study of eastern sites, and manage newly acquired areas. Finally, CBO estimates that managing the new sites would increase annual park operating and maintenance costs by \$400,000 a year beginning in 2009, also assuming the availability of appropriated funds. Enacting this legislation would have no effect on federal revenues or direct spending.

H.R. 3819 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no significant costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.